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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

1323

OFFICIAL REPORT

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Legislature (Assembly) Secretariat
Madras

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(*b*) if so, the action taken by this Government in the matter; and

(*c*) whether this Government are taking any steps to convert this college into a higher technological institute and, if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) & (*c*) It was first decided that the College of Engineering, Guindy, might be handed over to the Government of India, provided that the Government of India reserved certain seats every year in the under-graduate course for students from this State and also the existing staff in the College was absorbed. As these conditions were not fully accepted by the Government of India, this Government decided to drop the proposal to hand over the College to the Government of India.

On further reconsideration this Government have agreed to hand over the Engineering College at Guindy subject to the condition that specific reservation of admission for 100 students from this State is made in the College for a period of five years, and that an outright grant is made by the Central Government to enable the State Government to open a new engineering college. The matter will be discussed at the next meeting of the Southern Regional Committee of the All-India Council for Technical Education.

Official Language Commission

* 3542-E *Q.*—SRI A. M. RATHNASWAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that this Government have changed their stand on the question of official language after the visit of the Official Language Commission to Madras recently and are now prepared to continue the use of English as the language medium in technical and professional colleges till 1965 and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The views of this Government in regard to the language problem have been set out in the Explanatory Memorandum prepared in connexion with the Questionnaire issued by the Official Language Commission, copies of which have already been supplied to all Members of the House. This Government have not changed their stand on the question of official language since the visit of the Commission to Madras.

As regards the medium of instruction in scientific and professional colleges, which is not the same thing as the Official Language, attention of the Member is invited to paragraphs 24 to 28 of the Explanatory Memorandum referred to. The question of changing the present medium of instruction in Colleges referred to in paragraph 28 in still under the consideration of the Government.